

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

January 12, 2020 The First Sunday of Epiphany

Visiting with us today?

We are glad you are here! We would love to reach out to you (not in a nagging way) this week. Please fill out a card in the seat pockets and place in the offering basket or hand to an usher or pastor, or text your name to: **314-384-2444**.

We are happy your little ones are here too. They are welcome throughout the worship service, but if you prefer we offer:

- Nursery care for children 6 weeks through pre-school age.
- Children's Church gathers in the 1st & 2nd gr. classroom (room 111) during the
 offering for ages 4yrs through 2nd grade (and stays there for the remainder of
 the service).
- The worship service is streamed to the Fireplace Room for nursing moms.

If you are not able to find seats in the sanctuary, overflow is set up in the Youth Room.

www.trinitychurchkirkwood.org • 314.821.7311

WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO GIVES US JOY

Liturgist: Rev. Ben Tharp

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Greg Boehne

Scripture Reader: Chrissy Talent

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Quotes and Reflections

There are many who say, "Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of your face upon us, O Lord!" You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound. — Psalm 4:6-7

"Joy is the flag that is flown from the citadel of the heart when the King is in residence." — Anon.

"Holy joy is the oil to the wheels of our obedience." — Matthew Henry

"Better to have a Christian's day of sorrows than a worldling's day of happiness." — C.H. Spurgeon

WE READY OURSELVES TO WORSHIP

Reflect quietly and prayerfully on these words as we prepare to enter into worship.

Excerpts from: Christianity is Not a Frowning Contest, by Randy Alcorn

I've seen Bible-believing, Christ-centered people post thoughts on a blog or on social media only to receive a string of hypercritical responses from people who wield Scripture verses like pickaxes, swiftly condemning viewpoints they consider suspicious. Responders assume the worst, not giving the benefit of the doubt, engaging in shotgunstyle character assassination instead. If I were an unbeliever reading such responses, I certainly wouldn't be drawn to the Christian faith.

Other believers focus on negative news and political issues to the point the good news doesn't even factor into their thoughts or conversations. I see too many long-faced Christians who seem continuously angry, disillusioned, and defensive over politics and the infringement of their rights.

Many non-Christians view Jesus's followers as "hypocritical," "insensitive," and "judgmental." These words all describe unhappy people. (If the world judges us, so be it, but it shouldn't be because we're chronically unhappy.)

This isn't the whole story, of course. Nearly every community includes people with quiet confidence in Christ who are extraordinarily loving, kind, helpful, and cheerful. Unfortunately, many unbelievers see them as the rare exception. How tragic, since happiness in Christ is one of our most powerful evangelistic tools.

Do we really believe God loves for his children to be glad? If so, how do our daily lives, our families, and our churches reflect that truth for all to see?

J. C. Ryle's words are as true today as when he wrote them in the 1800s:

"It is a positive misfortune to Christianity when a Christian cannot smile. A merry heart, and a readiness to take part in all innocent mirth, are gifts of inestimable value. They go far to soften prejudices, to take stumbling blocks out of the way, and to make way for Christ and the gospel."

- Thegospelcoalition.org, Oct. 16, 2019

Song of Preparation (Ensemble)

*Call to Worship—Psalm 29 (selected)

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,

People: Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;

People: Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.

All: The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the

Lord is full of majesty.

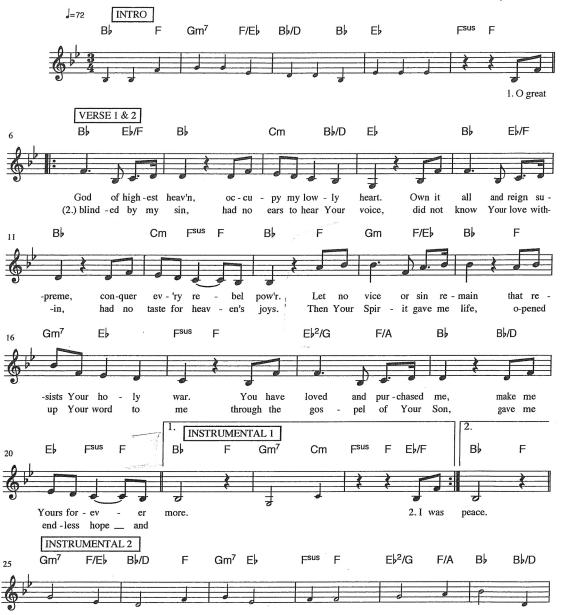
WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

*Songs of Adoration All Creatures of Our God and King Trinity Hymnal #115 (vv. 1, 2, 5)

[&]quot;Worship is the highest function of the human soul." — Geoffrey King

O Great God

Words and Music by bob Kauflin





*Prayer of Adoration

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

New Testament Reading—Acts 6:1-7

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

Reader: The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of

the Lord stands forever!

People: Amen!

WE CONFESS OUR UTTER UNWORTHINESS BEFORE GOD

Call to Confession—Isaiah 42:1-3

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.

Silent Confession and Lament

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Isaiah 43:1

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for His redeeming

love!

People: Thanks be to God!

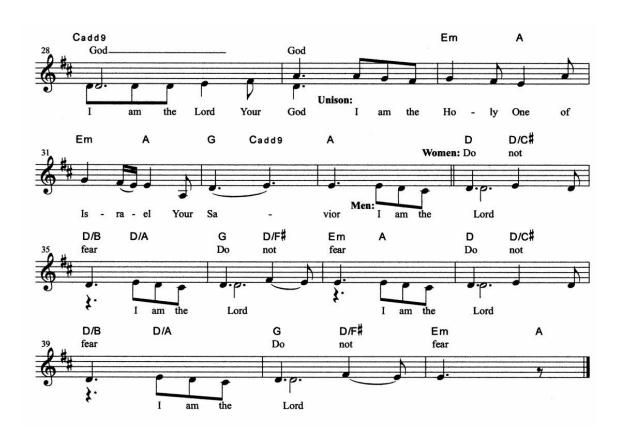
Leader: Now may the peace of Christ be with you all!

People: And also with you!

[&]quot;Peace is not real peace until it has been tested in the storm." — Eric Hayman

Composer Unknown





WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

(Children ages 4yr to 2nd grade may be excused for Children's Church in the1st/2nd grade classroom.)

Offertory Song (Ensemble)

Abide With Me

Words and Music by Travis Cottrell, Jeff Pardo, and Michael Farren

When you abide with me I fear no foe. No bitter tears could ever shake my soul Though arrows fly though terror reigns, I will not fear for you abide with me

When you abide with me my worries bow. You are my comforter in ev'ry hour Though sorrows rise like raging seas, I will not fear for you abide with me

Never forsaken my strength will ever be. Found in the hope that's taken hold of me Through light and darkness my soul will sing, for you abide with me

Sermon

"The Fulness of Joy" John 15:1-16 Rev. Chris Polski

Service of Ordination and Installation to the Office of Deacon

"God does not ask about our ability or our inability, but our availability." — Anon.

Kevin Keating, Roger Manwaring, Philip Oehlerking, Paul Schaffer, Norman Steele

The Warrant and Nature of the Office of Deacon

The Questions for Ordination and Installation

The Prayer of Ordination

The Right Hand of Fellowship

The Pronouncement of Ordination

The Charge

*Sending Song

Doxology
Trinity Hymnal #731

*Benediction

Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School Class

Join Pastor Polski for a SS series on the integrity of Holy Scripture. During this series we will examine the origins of the Bible, how it came together as one grand document and why we can believe that the Bible is exactly what it says it is, God's perfect and fully trustworthy word to mankind.

Children/Youth Sunday School

Classes	Teachers
Pre K & K	Jessica Doiron, Michelle Goldstein, Melissa Jorgensen, Melissa Kocher
1st & 2nd grade	Mimi Steele, Sue Freeman, Beth Kling, Janice Koch
3rd, 4th & 5th grade	Gary & Patty Peterson, Bill & Laurel Elzinga, Scott & Amy Mitchell
Jr. & Sr. High	Ben & Elisa Tharp

Jr. High & Sr. High Sunday School Testimony Series

In the month of January our students will have the opportunity to hear the testimonies of our brothers and sisters here at Trinity. By sharing their stories they will illustrate the work of God in their lives, even through seasons of trial and joy. Students are encouraged to attend and participate with questions and through conversation with our special guests each Sunday this month.

These are just announcement highlights. If you'd like to know more about Trinity, connect with us in one of the following ways...

• 314/821-7311 • www.trinitychurchkirkwood.org • Facebook: Trinity Church Kirkwood Worship and General Church Information

- Sunday school classes for all ages meet today.
- Volunteers next week: Nursery: Mitchell, Poe, Shelton, Van Duren, Petty. SS: Harlow, Nichols, Van Duren. Ushers: S. Mitchell, Younger, Thomason, Standerfer.
- Men's Bible Study this Friday at 6:30am. This semester the men are studying the Book of Judges. This study meets on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Friday of each month.
- Women's Bible Study begins this week. The Tues. study will continue their look at the Psalms on Jan. 14th at 7pm at Melissa Jorgensen's home. The Wed. morning group will begin on Jan. 15th. Sign up and pick up the Galatians study on the hall table. It isn't too late to join either study!
- Men's Night this Wednesday at 8pm at Chris Freeman's.
- **Prayer Gathering this Friday** at 7:45am. We meet on the 1st & 3rd Fri. of each month.
- Did you know you can use the **Church Center app** for online giving, to sign up for events, connect with your small groups, bible studies, etc? Contact the church office if you need help setting it up.
- The deadline to sign up for the UK mission trip is extended to Jan. 19, 2020. Please see Pastor Nate if you have any questions.
- **Scripture Readers** needed for Sunday mornings in January and February. Please see the sign up sheet in the hallway.
- If you do not receive our **weekly email updates** on Tuesday mornings, please send your email address to amymitchell@trinitystlouis.org.
- Volunteers needed to help in the Robinson Elementary Food Pantry. See Nate Taylor or your weekly emails to sign up.
- Does your family enjoy the Sunday snacks? If so, please consider signing up to bring a snack on a future Sunday. See Amy Mitchell or your weekly email.
- Save the Date: Trivia Night, Friday evening, Feb. 7th. See today's insert for more information!
- Calling all 4th-6th graders! It is time to sign up for Camp Strong. April 17-19th. Bring your friends. See today's insert for the details.

Trinity's ministries are organized around the core values in our purpose statement which reads: Trinity Church exists to exalt God's name, establish God's people, equip God's church and engage God's world, in the power of the Holy Spirit and for the sake of the Risen King, Jesus Christ.

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